

# ***BLM News***

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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## ***Living With Fire Activities Part of Nevada Wildland Fire Awareness Week, May 20 – 26***

**ELKO, NV.** – As part of Nevada Wildland Fire Awareness Week from May 20-26, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Elko Field Office will be conducting a series of public events to inform homeowners of what they can do to prepare their homes and property for the upcoming fire season.

“From Monday May 22 until Thursday May 25, wildland firefighters from the BLM Elko Field Office will be discussing methods to prevent the start of wildland fires,” said BLM Fire Prevention Specialist Dylan Rader. “We will also be introducing the concept of defensible space to local fifth graders during the Lamoille Canyon Environmental Education Day held at the Thomas Creek Campground. Each student will be given a copy of the Great Basin version of Living With Fire - A Guide for the Homeowner to take home for their parents.”

“On Friday May 26, an informational booth hosted by the Elko BLM, Nevada Division of Forestry, Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest, and Elko Fire Department will be set up at the Elko Home Depot, 2955 Mountain City Highway, Elko, Nevada,” Rader continued. “Firefighters will be available to answer questions and pass out information relating to steps that the proactive homeowner can take to prepare their homes before the threat of fire season is here. The booth will have occasional visits by Smokey Bear and free hot dogs and soda will be available from noon until 2:00 PM.”

Similar events are happening around the state, as part of Nevada Wildland Fire Awareness Week. Many local, state, and federal agencies concerned about the wildfire threat have come together to plan the week’s activities in an effort to help raise awareness about the wildfire threat in Nevada. “We all know that in Nevada, it’s not a matter of if, but a matter of when wildfire will threaten our communities,” says Ed Smith, natural resources specialist with University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, who is helping to spearhead the effort. “As Nevadans, we all need to work together and be proactive to reduce the threat of wildfire to our homes and neighborhoods.”

Smith says that there are many things homeowners can do to make their homes safer from the threat of wildfire. They can create a defensible space in the area immediately surrounding their homes, clear away dead and dry vegetation, replace wood-shake roofs with tile roofs, and much more. There are videos, DVDs, handouts and other materials available to homeowners and groups wanting more information. Go to [www.livingwithfire.info](http://www.livingwithfire.info) or call University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, (775) 784-4848, for more information on Nevada Wildland Fire Awareness Week and protecting your home from the threat of wildfire.

For people interested in obtaining a copy of the Great Basin Version of Living With Fire - A Guide for the Homeowner, free copies are available from the front desk of the Elko BLM Field Office located at 3900 East Idaho Street in Elko.

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